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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/799,659	03/15/2004	Shin Yasuda	119088	8600	
25944	7590	08/01/2005	EXAMINER		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC				CHANG, AUDREY Y	
P.O. BOX 19928				ART UNIT	
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320				2872	
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DATE MAILED: 08/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SAC

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/799,659	YASUDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Audrey Y. Chang	2872	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 May 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-14 and 21 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/15/2004.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

- This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on May 26, 2005, which has been entered into the file.
- By this amendment, the applicant has amended claims 1, 9, and 15 and has newly added claims 21.
- Claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of **species A (claims 1-8)** in the reply filed on May 26, 2005 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that there is no serious burden on the searches for the different species claimed. This is not found persuasive because although the species A and B may be rejoined the features concerning species C-F (recited in the previous Office Action) are mutually exclusive among themselves and with respect to species A and B since they are based on entirely different operational techniques (i.e. pages image information recorded using multiplexing process, wherein species A and B does not require multiplexing process) which therefore should be restricted based on the requirements on MPEP.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. **Claims 15-20 are withdrawn** from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on May 26, 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. **Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph,** as based on a disclosure which is not enabling. *Polarized recording reference, object beam and reconstructed beams and certain kind of polarization rotation means* are critical or essential to the practice of the invention, but not included in the claim(s) is not enabled by the disclosure. See *In re Mayhew*, 527 F.2d 1229, 188 USPQ 356 (CCPA 1976). The specification and claims fail to teach how could “the polarization state of a reconstructed beam obtained from the re-recorded hologram to be different from a polarization state of reconstructed beam obtained from the hologram preceding the re-recording” as recited in claim. There is not any polarization state involved in any of the beams stated in the claim or its based claim, and most importantly there is not any polarization rotation means stated in the claims therefore the change of polarization state cannot be achieved. The polarization state of a light beam cannot be changed by itself.

Claim Objections

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors. The applicant is respectfully reminded that it is applicant's responsibility to clarify ALL of the discrepancies, errors and confusions in the claims to make the claims in comply the requirements of 35 USC 112, first and second paragraphs. The examiner can only point out a few of the indefiniteness.

5. **Claims 21 and 1-14 are objected to because of the following informalities:**

(1). The term “re-record and retain” has been used through out the claims, however it appears the meaning of this term are not consistent through out the claims which makes the scopes of the claims extremely unclear. For instance the phrase reads in claims 2-4, and 10-12, “when … the reproduction information is re-recorded and retained”. It is not clear the “re-recorded and retained” is any different from all the preceding re-record and retain as for instance recited in its based claims 21, 1 and 9. It is implicitly true that the condition after the “when” can only occurs for one stage of recording so does it means there is or is not any intermediate re-recording and retaining steps. The scopes of these claims therefore are not clear.

(2). The phrase “the same position as the predetermined position as a hologram” recited in claim 1 and the phrase “the different position as the predetermined position as a hologram” are confusing and indefinite. It is not clear what is considered to be the “predetermined position”? What are considered to be the “same position” or “different position”? **Positions** referred to what? What is a “position as a hologram”? The term hologram used in the art is the “reproduced information from a recorded holographic fringes pattern” which therefore is an image. So what is considered to be a position as a hologram (or an image)? The phrase perhaps is better read as “same (or different) location *on the optical recording medium* wherein a holographic pattern is recorded”.

(3). The claim language is very confusing since it is not clear if there is a plurality of “re-recording and retaining” **steps** being performed or not. If so, what are the *logical relationship* between the consequent (i.e. the first to the second or the second to the third etc.) and intermediate re-recording and retaining *process steps* for the whole procedure to be able to carry on.

(4). The phrases “when … “ recited in claims 2-4 and 10-12 are conditional which therefore is not clear what happen to the recording process when the conditions are not met. Also what is considered to the “position information”?

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. **Claims 21, and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the patent issued to Moss et al (PN. 5,016,953).**

Moss et al teaches a *method for recording hologram* wherein a *master hologram* (33a, Figure 3) having a *computer generated hologram recorded* therein is illuminated with reconstruction beam (46, Figure 3) to *reproduce* the recorded computer generated hologram information and the reconstructed information is used to *re-recording* and *retaining* a *copy hologram* (47, Figure 4) in step (50, Figure 4). The copy hologram (47) is then used as a master hologram such that recorded hologram is *reproduced* by illuminating it with reconstruction beam to *re-recording* and *retaining* the reproduced information as *another copy hologram* (49). The process is then repeated and the original computer generated hologram is being reproduced and re-recorded and retained in each of the subsequent re-recording process until a *final hologram* is made.

With regard to claim 9, Moss et al teaches that a different recording medium is used in the subsequent re-recording process which means the re-recording is at different position with regard to the original master hologram, (33a).

With regard to claims 10-11, Moss et al teaches that a final copy of the re-recording and retaining hologram is made at the end of process which means it implicitly meets the features concerning the intensity of the reconstruction beam and the number of times of re-recording process requirement.

This reference has therefore anticipated the claims.

8. Claims 21, 9-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by the patent issued to Tanaka (PN. 6,707,585).

Tanaka teaches a *method* for holographic recording and reproducing wherein a *prerecorded hologram* (PC, Figure 5) in a predetermined position of a *recording medium* (10) is *reproduced* by the illumination of the *reproduction beam* (12c) and the reproduced information is *re-recorded and retained* in the recording medium by using a *recording reference beam* (12b). Tanaka teaches that the reproduced hologram information is re-recorded and retained at a different position (RC2) of the recording medium with respect to the prerecorded hologram (PC).

With regard to claims 10-11, the conditions concerning the intensity of the reconstruction beam and the number of times of re-recording are implicitly met by the re-recording process.

With regard to claim 13, Tanaka teaches that the recording medium is a photorefractive medium, (please see column 2, lines 68).

This reference has therefore anticipated the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent issued to Tanaka in view of the patent issued to Newswanger et al (PN. 6,806,982).

The *method* for holographic recording and reproducing taught by Tanaka as described for claim 21 above has met all the limitations of the claims. This reference however does not teach explicitly that the re-recorded holographic information is at the same position of the recording medium as the prerecorded hologram is recorded. Newswanger et al in the same field of endeavor teaches a way of achieving high diffraction efficiency for the recorded hologram by having the *same* interference fringes patterns being exposed and re-recorded at the same portion of the recording medium multiple times, (please see column 6, lines 53-58). It would then have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the arrangement and the method of holographic recording and reproducing of Tanaka by re-recording the prerecorded hologram at the same position of the recording medium a multiple times for the benefit of making the recorded hologram with higher and improved diffraction efficiency.

With regard to claims 2-3, the conditions concerning the intensity of the reconstruction beam and the number of times of re-recording are implicitly met by the re-recording process.

With regard to claim 4, these references do not teach explicitly to also record the position information however the information that intended to be recorded as a hologram is considered to be an obvious matters of design choice to one skilled in the art since it does not change the method of recording and such modification certainly may meet the particular needs of the application as one desires.

With regard to claim 5, it is implicitly true that the intensity of the reconstructed beam certainly has an intensity value that is detectable since the reproduced image is detected by the CCD detector (20).

With regard to claim 6, the features are not enabled by the disclosure in the specification and the claim; they therefore cannot be examined here.

With regard to claim 7, Tanaka teaches that the recording medium is a photorefractive medium, (please see column 2, lines 68).

11. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patents issued to Tanaka and Newswanger et al as applied to claims 21 and 1 above, and further in view of the patent issued to Kawano et al (PN. 6,452,890).

The method for holographic recording and reproducing taught by Tanaka in combination with the teachings of Newswanger et al as described for claims 21 and 1 above have met all the limitations of the claim. These references however do not teach explicitly that the recording medium may also comprise the particular polyester claimed. Kawano et al in the same field of endeavor teaches that the holographic recording medium may comprise polarization sensitive material such as polyester with azobenzene side chain, (please see column 10, lines 32-35). It would then have been obvious to one skilled in the art to apply the teachings of Kawano et al to modify the holographic recording layer material of Tanaka to use the particular polyester material for the benefit of making the holographic recording medium sensitive to the polarization state of the recording and reproducing beams so that *polarization induced* holographic data can be recorded, which gives the advantage of increasing the types of holographic data can be recorded by the system.

Furthermore, it has been held it is within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

12. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent issued to Tanaka.

The *method* for holographic recording and reproducing taught by Tanaka as described for claim 21 above has met all the limitations of the claims.

With regard to claim 12, this reference does not teach explicitly to also record the position information however the information that intended to be recorded as a hologram is considered to be an obvious matters of design choice to one skilled in the art since it does not change the method of recording and such modification certainly may meet the particular needs of the application as one desires.

13. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patents issued to Tanaka and in view of the patent issued to Kawano et al (PN. 6,452,890).

The method for holographic recording and reproducing taught by **Tanaka** as described for claims 21 and 9 above have met all the limitations of the claim. These references however do not teach explicitly that the recording medium may also comprise the particular polyester claimed. **Kawano** et al in the same field of endeavor teaches that the holographic recording medium may comprise polarization sensitive material such as polyester with azobenzene side chain, (please see column 10, lines 32-35). It would then have been obvious to one skilled in the art to apply the teachings of **Kawano** et al to modify the holographic recording layer material of Tanaka to use the particular polyester material for the benefit of making the holographic recording medium sensitive to the polarization state of the recording and reproducing beams so that *polarization induced* holographic data can be recorded, which gives the advantage of increasing the types of holographic data can be recorded by the system.

Furthermore, it has been held it is within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended used as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Audrey Y. Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-2309. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-4:30), alternative Mondays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on 571-272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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